ther questions arising out of it. The question asked here directly arises from the answer given by the member in charge of the original question.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I rise to a point of order. Can a point of order be raised on a question that has been asked and disposed of after another question has been called up?

PRESIDENT: Perhaps not.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know the number of cases that have come up for disposal in the Village Panchayat Court?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

Policy of the Excise Department.

170. *MR. T. K. ALEXANDER (*Kunnatnad I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the policy of the Excise Department is directed to the attainment of prohibition;

(*b*) the percentage of decrease in the number of shops and trees tapped for toddy for the last five years?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) The policy of the Excise Department is the promotion of temperance and the attainment of gradual prohibition.

(*b*) Percentage of decrease or increase in the number of shops.

	Toddy		*Arrack*	
1104	4·05	(decrease)	6·46	(decrease)
1105	Nil		Nil	
1106	5·21	(decrease)	9·14	(decrease)
1107	0·26	(increase)	2·25	(increase)
1108	3·31	(decrease)	8·43	(decrease)

Percentage of decrease or increase in the number of trees tapped for toddy.

1104	9·31	(increase
1105	4·39	(decrease)
1106	32·38	(Do.)
1107	7·03	(Do.)
1108	5·65	(increase)

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know the answer to the first part of the question? I was not able to hear it when the official member answered it.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): The policy of the Excise Department is the promotion of temperance and the attainment of gradual prohibition.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether Government have a definite plan before them to attain prohibition?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Government have given an undertaking in one of the former sessions of the Council that during every contract there will be a reduction of 5 per cent. in the number of toddy and arrack shops.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanachery I*): Is that practice kept on now?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS.

THE TRAVANCORE EDAVAGAI BILL—(*contd.*)

PRESIDENT: The Assembly will now resume discussion of the motion of the Law Member that the Travancore Edavagai Bill be taken up for consideration.

Before, however, I call upon any member to speak, I wish to appeal to the House to help me in getting through the proceedings as quickly as possible. The House is well aware that there are only three days that have been set apart for legislation. We have already spent a day and a half and what remains is therefore the remaining moiety. I am aware that the Rules do not lay down any time limit for speeches in regard to legislation. But it is open to the Chair to watch the discussions and ask the member to abbreviate his speech if there is any repetition or irrelevant matter introduced. I shall certainly not at once lay down any time limit arbitrarily. I shall certainly watch the proceedings and if it is found necessary, I shall perhaps be constrained to lay down a time limit. As an instance of the manner in which the discussion has gone on, I may perhaps draw the attention of the House to the fact that one honourable member who began his speech yesterday has not yet concluded it and I am not sure for how long he is going to occupy the House. My purpose in asking the House to help me in this respect is to enable other members who might wish to speak to have a chance For if at the end of the third day there is very little chance for other members to speak, it may become necessary for the Chair to hustle through the proceedings, which I should certainly discard. And therefore I am appealing in all sincerity to the members of the House to help me, to cut short their speeches as far as possible but let it not be understood that I am curtailing the freedom of speech nor am I asking them to be as brief or to be brief with a vengeance. They should certainly be allowed all opportunity to place before the House such points as they regard as important. My only request to them is that they should be as brief as possible in their observations and not lengthen the speeches for unnecessarily long time. With these few observations I hope I shall have the assistance of the House in getting through all legislative business that has been placed before the House for disposal in the course of the three days. I think I must call upon Mr. Thanu Pillai to resume his speech.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly